Top Secret

YUGOSLAVIA: Milosevic Lying Low

Serbian party chief Milosevic has made few public appearances or pronouncements since his setback more than a week ago at a party Central Committee plenum. Only a few peaceful protests by Milosevic's Serb supporters have been reported, a date still has not been fixed for a massive Serb demonstration planned for Belgrade. Slovene and other regional media are sharply criticizing Milosevic,

Milosevic may further strengthen Serbia's control in the provinces of Kosovo and Vojvodina, but he has been stymied in his broader drive for more power both for Serbia and himself. After lying low for awhile, he is likely to regroup his supporters in Serbia and other regions to resume his efforts. He probably will turn first to more conventional methods of politicking and coalition building. If that tack proves ineffective, as is likely, he may return to provocative demonstrations to discredit opponents for failure to implement political and economic reform. In the meantime his political base in Serbia appears secure.